

July 23, 1959

Dr. G. W. Monk
American Machine and Foundry Company
Alexandria, Virginia

Dear Dr. Monk:

We are currently interested in some experiments involving the sedimentation of bacteria in density gradients. In a paper in the Journal of Bacteriology for March, 1956, Orr and Gordon refer to a personal communication from you on liquid-phase sedimentation studies with *Serratia marcescens* indicating a density of about 1.06. I would be grateful to you for details of these experiments or for references to any papers in which they may have been described. I would be particularly keen to have your advice on suitable solutes for making up solutions of the requisite density without disturbing the bacteria. In fact we have been able to find almost nothing in the literature on this procedure and I would also be grateful for any general references you might be able to furnish.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics

MONK, G.W.